To make a difference in our region, our grantmaking community needs to learn together and act together. In order to best support the varying levels of interest in diverse issue areas within our membership, the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers formally convenes members in the following ways.

### Opportunities to convene

#### CEO Listserv
**CEOs:** Have a question? Your colleagues might just have the answer. Query the listserv about your pressing concerns - What's the best grants software? How do you navigate a legal issue? What are your colleagues doing to respond to a local emergency? You'll get fast feedback from experienced peers.

1. Post a query to your colleagues
2. Have a digital conversation
3. Find a solution

#### Brown Bag Discussions
**Informal peer learning** can be a powerful tool. Let's say you want to share or gather information about how philanthropy is responding to the needs of local veterans. Suggest the topic to WRAG, we'll schedule a date and email your colleagues, and you bring your lunch and questions for an intimate conversation.

1. Interested in a topic? Suggest it to WRAG.
2. WRAG will schedule a brown bag lunch and promote it to the membership
3. Discuss the topic over lunch

#### Working Groups
**Our region faces** a lot of challenges. Perhaps you and four other grant-making colleagues want philanthropy to respond to local environmental issues and are committed to convening formally. We’ll schedule regular meetings and spread the word. You develop an agenda to learn, act, or both.

1. At least five funders decide to convene around an issue
2. WRAG schedules regular meetings
3. WRAG promotes the group to the membership
4. Group meets regularly to learn and act

#### Collaboratives
**Some issues call for** a focused funding strategy - the District's HIV/AIDS epidemic, for example. WRAG members can come together to address an issue through a formal funding collaborative.

1. A group of funders decides to pool funding around an issue
2. Collaboratively, the group makes grants
3. WRAG is available to provide fiscal agency AND/OR staff support

### Other ways to convene

- **Affinity Groups**: Affinity groups give funders with common traits - corporate or family funders, for example - opportunities to learn from each other.

- **Brightest Minds**: Hear from provocative thought leaders about emerging trends in the social sector.

- **Time-sensitive Briefings**: Some issues can't be anticipated. But when something important arises, we're always ready to respond.

- **Annual Meeting**: It's more than just lunch! It's an opportunity to network with colleagues, and hear from leaders in the field. And, there are always a few surprises!

**More info? Questions? Ideas?**
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